MCC NEWS

VOLUME III LOS ANGELES, CA. MARCH 21, 1971 NO. 23

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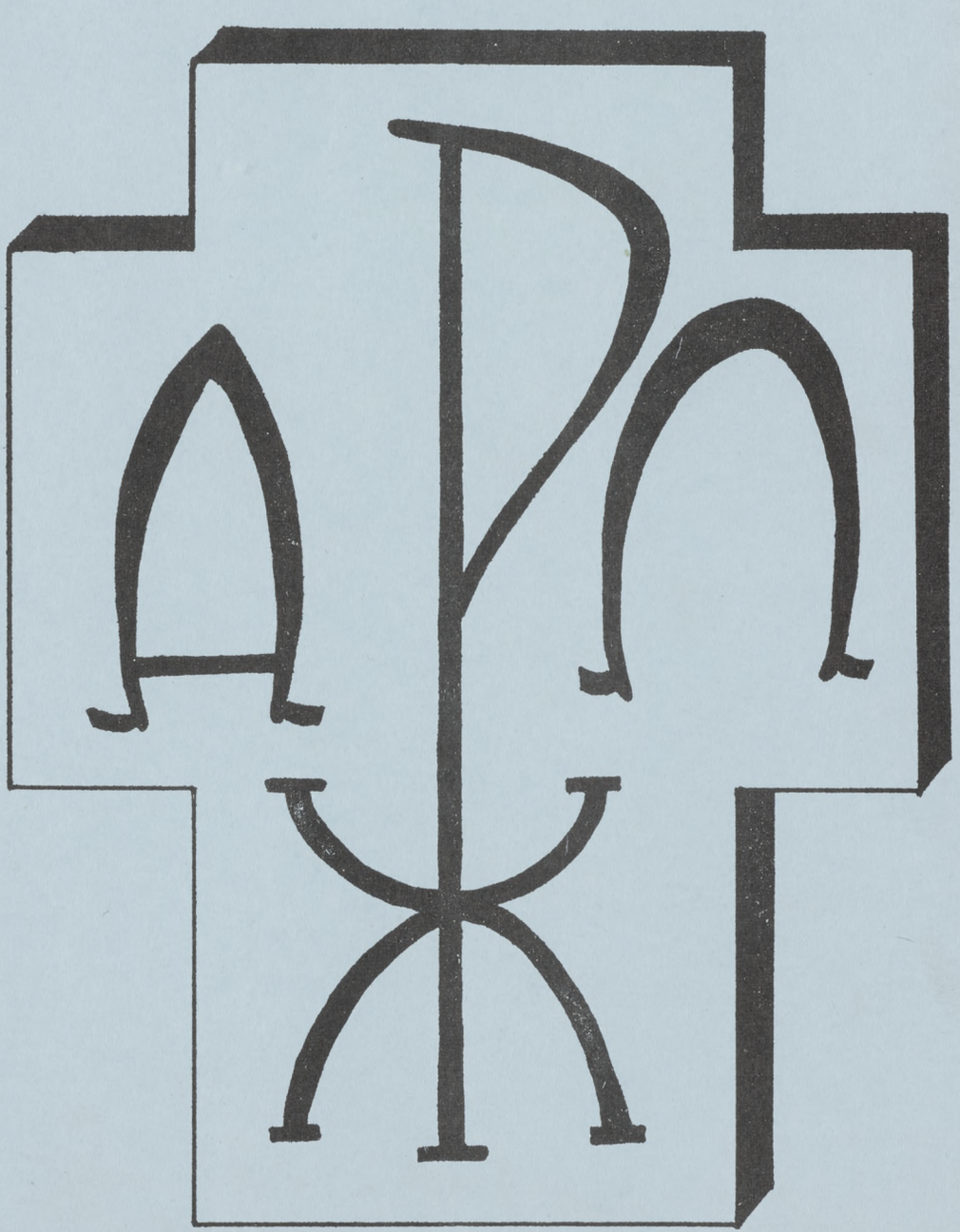

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All articles to be published in The MCC News MUST be signed. If you are concerned enough to write, and we hope you are, be concerned enough to sign your articles, etc..

"Well, — mostly I ate EGGS."

Christ Removes All Barriers

READ EPHESIANS 2:11-20

Bible Thought: ***"In this new man of God's design there is no distinction between Greek and Hebrew, Jew or Gentile, foreigner or savage, slave or free men. Christ is all that matters, for Christ lives in them all"*** **(Colossians 3:11 Phillips).**

WHEN Jesus came to live as man, the world was in its greatest need of change. The Gentiles were engulfed in sin following the impulses and imaginations of their evil nature. The Jews were so steeped in tradition and rules that they forgot the important areas of justice, mercy, and faith. Jews and Gentiles were always in conflict with each other. Then Christ appeared, breaking down the barrier and uniting Jew and Gentile into one new man. By the sacrifice of his body on the cross he changed the ill feeling between them into brotherly love.

In Berlin, Germany, the "Iron Curtain" keeps East Berlin separated from West Berlin. On both sides of the wall, however, those who are in Christ have a common purpose. Americans and Russians, middle class and poverty stricken, black and white are united in Christ. None other than Christ can bring about common goals for people who are so different. May we let Jesus change the world through our changed lives and our work for Christian truth and brotherhood.

Hymn: "I Have a Savior."

Our Father, we are thankful that we can be united in Christ. Will you help us to live our lives in total surrender to him. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

M.C.C. NEWS BOX 38098 HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90038

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1971

Section I

	ITEM	FOR THE MONTH			YEAR-TO-DATE		
		CURRENT YEAR BUDGET	CURRENT YEAR ACTUAL	VARIANCE	CURRENT YEAR BUDGET	CURRENT YEAR ACTUAL	VARIANCE
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	CASH BALANCE—Beginning of Period		5899.23			———	
RECEIPTS	BUDGET—Envelopes		2421.27			10456.01	
RECEIPTS	BUDGET—Loose Offerings		1709.64			16284.75	
RECEIPTS	BUDGET—Sunday School						
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED	BUILDING RESERVE					6586.33	
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED	DEACONS		38.00			193.50	
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED	BENEVOLENCE					15.25	
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED	UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP					271.74	
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED	BIBLE SEMINARY		30.00			60.00	
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED							
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED							
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED							
RECEIPTS DESIGNATED	BAD CHECKS		(5.00)			(36.50)	
RECEIPTS	MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS		16474.27			26118.82	
RECEIPTS	TOTAL RECEIPTS		20688.18			59949.90	
	TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH (Beginning Balance Plus Receipts)		26587.41			———	
DISBURSEMENTS	WORLD MISSIONS (Including Cooperative Program)		372.70			2525.52	
DISBURSEMENTS	HONORARIUMS		250.00			1150.00	
DISBURSEMENTS	SALARIES		1050.00			4850.00	
DISBURSEMENTS	COMMUNICATIONS		6.34			102.96	
DISBURSEMENTS	ORGANIZATION AND EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY		27.88			27.88	
DISBURSEMENTS	CHURCH SUPPLIES		32.87			848.79	
DISBURSEMENTS	BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT (Purchase and Maintenance)		2300.00			49140.49	
DISBURSEMENTS	RENT		513.00			1879.25	
DISBURSEMENTS	UTILITIES		247.11			1080.42	
DISBURSEMENTS DESIGNATED	OFFICE SUPPLIES		267.79			1402.07	
DISBURSEMENTS DESIGNATED	MUSIC		111.94			328.91	
DISBURSEMENTS DESIGNATED	MISCELLANEOUS		269.93			2129.55	
DISBURSEMENTS	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		26149.56			65465.84	
	CASH BALANCE—Close of Period (Available Cash Less Disbursements)		437.85			———	

MAY FESTIVAL NEARS

VALLEY PARISH
Meetings are being held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. In March the meetings will be held at Kathy and Shawns - 7725 Laurel Canyon Blvd., in North Hollywood on March 23rd. Call 664-3709 or 875-0419

UP AND COMING
Central Parish Presents "You Gotta Be Kidding" a variety show. Actors for parts in four short plays are needed. Auditions will be held at church on March 22nd at 7:30 PM. Jim Mason

Flowers for You
jon bullock

894-4420

9038 WOODMAN AVE.
PANORAMA CITY, CALIF.

Pressures once caused me to write the following prayer ... Recently more pressure has caused me to recite it to our God like a litany. I want to share it with you because it may help strengthen you in your time of great need.

Prayer for Maturity

Oh God, it is our desire to have a clear personal identity. Grant that we may like ourselves and not belittle others.

Grant us the ability to correctly appraise reality.

Give us the capacity to love others and ourselves.

May we have the ability to work productively and to enjoy our work.

Grant us the character to accept immediate frustrations for future goals.

May we please have the ability to consistently get along with others, while adjusting to a world of changing relationships.

We ask that we be given a moral conscience that has arrived at specific views, but which responds to others at appropriate times.

Give us the ability to profit by experience, laugh at our own mistakes and wholesomely tolerate the mistakes of others.

Grant us the insight and ability to direct hostile instincts towards wrong behavior rather than the person performing the wrong acts.

We sincerely beg of you the ability to accept responsibility while cooperating with others who have responsibility over us.

Let us truly understand there is more satisfaction in giving than in receiving.

We truly pray for the grace to love You with our bodies, souls and spirits and love our fellow humans, gay or straight, more than we do ourselves.

Amen.

Barrie Bryant

A LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Two years ago I realized that as a minister of the gospel, I was preaching about spiritual disciplines but not controlling my own appetite for food. At the Lenten season, inspired by the self-discipline of Jesus during His 40-day fast, I started a six-week program called WILL—*a Workshop in Lenten Living*, held at a nearby hotel and sponsored by our First Baptist Church of Binghamton, New York.

There were twice-weekly luncheons which were opened with grace and then, as we ate our low-calorie meal, we enriched it with devotionals and Bible reading. I was stirred and strengthened by some of the many incidents in the Bible that stimulate and establish the dieter's willpower—Jesus in Gethsemane, the sufferings of Job, Daniel's self-discipline in the King's palace. All of these were helpful in keeping us on our Lenten self-denial program.

If, as James said, you "ask in faith, with no doubting," you will gather strength and gain the victory in your Lenten discipline. That is what happened to me.

H. Victor Kane*
Binghamton, New York

**Author of* Devotions for Dieters. *(Judson Press, Valley Forge, Pa.)*

Emphasizing areas of agreement among the major faiths, their mutual worship of one God; and their determination to preserve freedom under God for all men.

Read this.

Dear Friends,

It seems the short-lived MCC LA News' Calendar of Events was popular and you're missing it! Fine -- as from next issue we'll try and get it going again. To do so we need your good cooperation. A circular is being sent to all departments of MCC as well as to the various Parish Deacons. Please, if you are organizing an event and would like it listed, leave a written notification with all relevant details at the Publication Room, marking it "MCC Calendar" for my attention. Don't forget to give your name and contact phone in case any points need clarification prior to printing. Deadline for entry is at least 8 days before date of issue.

I know there are several events already planned -- let's get the details in fast and we'll be in business! It doesn't matter how far ahead the event. We're not looking to a "week-to-week" calendar -- we'll go as far ahead as your planning and carry the announcement each week until the scheduled date.

YFKE

Brother June Says:
A brother helped is like a strong city,
But quarreling is like the bars of a castle. Pro: 18.19

COSTA MESA

We're moving! On April 4th, we will start having our services at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1259 Victoria Avenue, in Costa Mesa. The church sits on the boundary of Costa Mesa and Huntington Beach, a 1/4 mile east of Brookhurst. Services remain at 7 pm, with coffee hour immediately after service.

Rev. Perry will be preaching here Easter Sunday evening, when we will be chartered as a Church. Let's pack the Church this service -- we can seat 150 -- so seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

Our phone number is (714) 548-5046, and the mailing address is 2232 Pacific Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627.

We had 8 girls in attendance last week; see, we're trying hard to "integrate" the congregation.

Our choir will be performing for the first time on Easter Sunday -- try to attend!

Rev. Harrison is working at U.C. Irvine as a Chaplain - Counselor as well as counselling at Cal State Long Beach. He is also participating in the Forum on Homosexuality at Irvine and a similar forum at Cal State Fullerton.

We're going great guns, and we do thank God for this ministry.

A. Hallum

MIAMI

Miami is really off and running -- The whole state of Florida will soon be MCC'ed, but good!

Missions are opening in Tampa, West Palm Beach and Ft. Lauderdale. Rev. Wilson reports that 50 were present at their first Tampa meeting -- and 150 in the second meeting. The Lord is really moving.

Sunday morning last week saw 95 in service in Miami, with 44 in attendance for the evening service.

Watch our southernmost church GROW.

LONG BEACH PARISH

A very interesting, lively discussion group conducted by Al DeLabio on Marriage and Dating was held at Joe Smith's apartment in Gardena March 10th. The 20 present enjoyed the evening very much. The party held at 544 W. 3rd St. Saturday, March 6th by Sam Wilcox was not a social event of the Long Beach Parish.

Wed., March 24th, Long Beach Parish will meet to plan our April activities, as well as a general business meeting, at Steve, Al and Joe's, 280 Molino Ave. Let us all think of ideas and suggestions as to what we can do to keep our Parish as active as we have been doing. Bring someone who has not been to the Parish activities, or has not been for some time.

Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.
II Corn. 3:6.

Jesus made a special point of discouraging the laying of emphasis upon outer observances; and, indeed, upon hard and fast rules and regulations of every kind. What He insisted upon was a certain spirit in one's conduct and when the spirit is right, details will take care of themselves.

Yet, in spite of this, the history of orthodox Christianity is made up of attempts to enforce all sorts of external observances upon the people.

We, at MCC, should daily dedicate ourselves to heralding of the good spirit of life and when one of our brothers or sisters asks us to go a mile for them, we should cheerfully go two.

Rev. Ken Jones
Minister of Visitation

Flowers for You
9038 WOODMAN AVE
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wayne croxen **894-4420**

NOTICE

All books and records dealing with the financial state of MCC are open to ALL members at any time. Call me at 748-0123 for an appointment.

Pat Vestal
Church Treasurer

To MCC:

Thank you for being here. Although I testified in Church Sunday there were things I left unsaid so I'd like to do that now.

In 1968 after my personal loss I felt as if there were no Supreme Being, that there was no rhyme or reason for it to have happened. I had been a Church member during my youth but I always felt apart and alone. It wasn't really my church. After my Mothers death the church could offer me nothing except their "stock phrases" set aside for such occasions. So I gave up the church.

Then I was introduced to MCC in June of last year and I now know that there IS a reason for everything that happens. I have been able to rekindle my faith through the love and friendship that exists here at MCC. I KNOW that there IS a SUPREME BEING and that HE is with HIS children today as he was yesterday.

MCC, you have shown me the true meaning of the 10 commandments together with the true spirit of love and forgiveness and that I now have an inner peace I never had before and that HE does watch over each of us. By putting myself in his hands everyday I know HE will not forsake me.

To all of MCC may God bless each of you every day just as HE has blessed me.

With Love and Understanding,
Dick Durant

MAY FESTIVAL NEARS

BEACH PARISH

Beach Parish held their 4th meeting at the home of Deacon Glenn Schmoll in Manhattan Beach on March 3rd. This was our evening for "just socializing" while we enjoyed a pot luck dinner that included corn pone pie. (Too bad you missed out on it, Rev. Perry.) And I'm sure that all seventeen who attended will agree that although we are still a small parish, our members certainly can hold their own in the kitchen -- too.

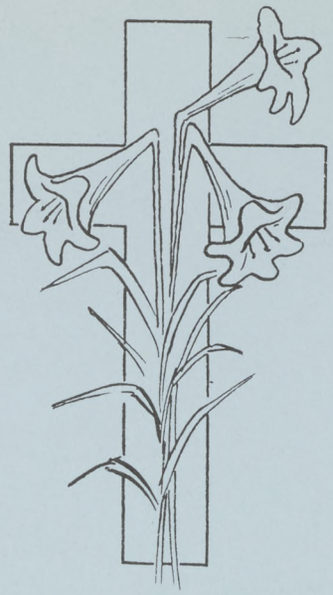
We had the pleasure of having our first two women guests and we hope this will serve to break the ice so that we'll be joined by many more at future meetings.

Sue Johnson brought her guitar and honored us with a few songs that brought the evening too quickly to a close.

We will be changing our meeting night for the next meeting only due to our special speaker -- that is, unless the majority of "South Bay Parish" (our new name) want to change to Fridays instead.

Can a young man from a small town in the Mid-West find happiness married to the Peruvian jungles and its surroundings? For the answer to that and other questions -- come join us as Ron Hayes tells all (nearly all?) about his adventures as a missionary in South America. This slide lecture will be presented at MCC-L.A. on Friday night, March 26th at 8 pm. We're asking that everyone who can -- bring a can of food to replenish our very meager larder in the Deacon's Closet. So come fellowship with us and learn how another young man heard God's challenge -- and answered the call that took him into the land of head hunters, big snakes, big spiders -- and big trouble!

HAVE YOU SMILED TODAY ?
PROVE IT !!



EASTER LILIES

Help decorate MCC for the Happiest Easter in our life. Call Peter Simms for your potted Easter Lily to line our altar.

Do it NOW!! Easter is the 11th of April ...

PRAYER GROUP FORMING

If you would like to participate in a prayer group, be at the Church at 7:30 pm, Saturday, March 27th. If you have requests that you would like for the prayer group to remember, you may leave them in the Church office.

IN UNITY

UNIDOS

Unidos is sponsoring Spanish classes every Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. If you want to be able to converse with our Latin brothers and sisters plan to attend this class. Classes are held at 5626 De-Longpre Avenue in Hollywood.

NOTICE

We are here to help YOU. The Metropolitan Community Church Crisis Line has a new phone number for personal emergencies. Please make a note of it - 748-1904. Under the auspices of C.I.C. this number is for your convenience and assistance.

YOUR GARDEN

Now that spring is here, it will be time to plant the gardens very soon. We pass this helpful Garden Program along to you.

First, plant 5 rows of peas; Preparedness, Promptness, Perseverance, Politeness, and Prayer.

Next to them plant 3 rows of Squash: Squash Gossip, Squash Criticism, Squash Indifference.

Then 5 rows of lettuce: Let us be Faithful, Let us be Loyal, Let us be Unselfish; Let us Love one Another and Let us be Truthful.

No Garden is complete without turnips; Turn up for Church; Turn up with a Smile; Turn up with a New Idea; Turn up with Real Determination.

This program properly carried out produces quite fast results. After planting, check up in a few days and see how your garden is doing.

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